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PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 07937.0002-07

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)

John KEANE et al.)

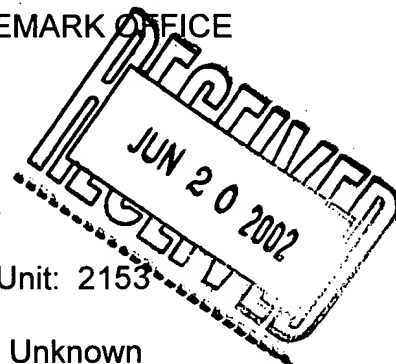
Application No.: 09/832,346)

Filed: April 11, 2001)

For: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR)
ENABLING COMMUNICATION)
BETWEEN A PROCESSOR AND)
A NETWORK OPERATIONS)
CENTER)

Group Art Unit: 2153

Examiner: Unknown



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Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. To the best of the Applicants' knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application. Additionally, each reference listed on the attached PTO 1449 was first cited in a communication from the European Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application.

Copies of the listed documents along with copies of the International Search Reports received from the European Patent Office in the counterpart application were previously submitted in a prior application, Application No. 09/814,178, filing date March 22, 2001, upon which Applicants rely for the benefits provided in 35 U.S.C. § 120.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

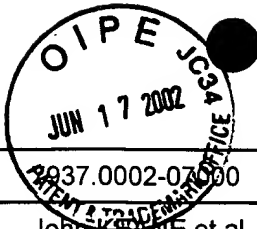
Dated: June 17, 2002

By: 

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

OMB No. 0651-0011

Atty. Docket No.	2937.0002-07000	Appln. No.	09/832,346
Applicant	John KEANE et al.		
Filing Date	April 11, 2001	Group:	2153

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
	5,825,772 A	10/20/98	Dobbins et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
	WO 0180490 A3	10/25/01	United States			
	WO 9859470	12/30/98	Sweden			
	WO 8908887	09/21/89	Australia			
	GB 2 340 702 A	02/23/00	Great Britain			
	WO 985467 A	12/30/98	Sweden			
	EP 0 302 646 A2	02/08/89	Europe			
	WO 0011832 A	03/02/00	Europe			Abstract

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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	Malkin Gary Scott: "Dial-In Virtual Private Networks Using Layer 3 Tunneling" Proceedings of the Conference on Local Computer Networks, November 2, 1997
	O'Guin, S. et al., "Application of Virtual Private Networking Technology to Standards-Based Management Protocols Across Heterogeneous Firewall-Protected Networks," IEEE, pp. 1251-1255, October 31, 1999

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce